United Nations SSC/19/L.3

South-South cooperation for development

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High-level Committee on South-South Cooperation
Nineteenth session
New York, 16-19 May 2016

Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

Note by the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme

1. The nineteenth session of the High-level Committee will follow the format and working methods introduced at the eleventh session of the Committee, held in May 1999, which include the following:

(a) A half-day organizational meeting to be held not later than three weeks before the biennial session of the Committee. The organizational meeting will elect the Bureau of the Committee and adopt the provisional agenda and programme of work;

(b) The duration of the general debate on agenda items 2, 3 and 4 of the provisional agenda of the nineteenth session of the Committee (SSC/19/L.2) will be limited to three plenary meetings and will conclude at the end of the morning meeting of the second day of the session. The arrangements for the general debate will be as follows:

(i) A list of speakers will be opened at the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation (fax: 212 906 6352; tel.: 212 906 6791; e-mail: southsouth@undp.org) on Friday, 29 April 2016, and closed at 6 p.m. on Monday, 16 May 2016;

(ii) In accordance with the working methods of the Committee, statements in the general debate will be limited to eight minutes for representatives of Member States and six minutes for other participants;

(iii) To save time, several States or groups of States sharing common positions may wish to consider presenting joint statements. Delegations wishing to have statements circulated to all participants are requested to upload them to https://papersmart.unmeetings.org;

(c) To make the debate interactive, the President may request the Director to respond, from time to time, as appropriate, to observations and suggestions made by delegations during the debate and will subsequently invite comments from the floor, either on the Director's response or on the issues raised in the statements of respective delegations;

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(d) An additional feature of the Committee's deliberations is a thematic discussion, including presentations by various experts on the selected theme. This format is designed to stimulate interactive discussions among delegations and between delegations and the Committee secretariat. The theme for the nineteenth session of the Committee is "Contribution of South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation in the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development". The recommendations emanating from the thematic discussion will also be incorporated into the report of the Committee and, as appropriate, reflected in its decisions;

(e) The biennial session will be scheduled prior to the annual session of the Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Population Fund and the United Nations Office for Project Services for a duration of four days. In conformity with the arrangements set out above, the general debate will be conducted in plenary meetings on 16 and 17 May 2016;

(f) In accordance with the views and suggestions expressed during the debate, the Working Group will meet on 18 May 2016 to deliberate on the draft decisions and recommendations of the Committee.

Draft programme of work

2. The annex to the present note contains a draft programme of work for the session. All meetings will be scheduled from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. In view of the limited time and services at the Committee's disposal, it is important that all meetings start promptly at the scheduled time. In an effort to make the best use of all services and in line with the practice of the General Assembly and other bodies, it is also suggested that, for the current session, the Committee waive the stipulation in rule 16 of its rules of procedure (TCDC/2/Rev.1) that the President may declare a meeting open and permit the debate to proceed when representatives of at least one third of the States participating are present.

3. Rule 10 of the Committee's rules of procedure stipulates that its officers are the President, three Vice-Presidents and a Rapporteur. The Working Group may wish to follow the practice of previous sessions whereby the Vice-President presiding over the Working Group would also serve as both Chair and Rapporteur. Based on previous practice, and taking into account General Assembly decision 33/417 on the organization of the work of United Nations bodies, it is urged that the regional groups start consultations on the nomination of candidates to fill those elective posts on the bureau of the High-level Committee well in advance of the organizational meeting, with a view to agreeing on a slate of candidates equal to the number of positions to be filled, thus allowing all officers of the Committee to be elected by acclamation at that meeting and dispensing with the requirement for secret balloting.

Annex

Draft programme of work

A. Plenary meetings

Monday 16 May 2016		*Tuesday 17 May 2016*		*Wednesday 18 May 2016*		*Thursday 19 May 2016*	
a.m.	*p.m.*	*a.m.*	*p.m.*	*a.m.*	*p.m.*	*a.m.*	*p.m.*
Opening of the session (item 1) General debate and review of progress made in implementing the Buenos Aires Plan of Action, the new directions strategy for South-South cooperation and the Nairobi outcome document of the High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation (item 2) Follow-up actions arising from previous sessions of the High-level Committee on South-South Cooperation, notably at its eighteenth session, in 2014, including actions arising out of the consideration of the note by the Secretary-General on the	Items 2, 3 and 4 (*continued*)	Items 2, 3 and 4 (*concluded*)	Thematic discussion on the contribution of South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation in the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development" (item 5)	–	–	–	Adoption of the report of the Working Group (item 6) Approval of the provisional agenda for the twentieth session of the Committee (item 7) Other matters (item 8) Adoption of the report of the Committee on its nineteenth session (item 9)

Monday 16 May 2016		Tuesday 17 May 2016		Wednesday 18 May 2016		Thursday 19 May 2016	
a.m.	*p.m.*	*a.m.*	*p.m.*	*a.m.*	*p.m.*	*a.m.*	*p.m.*
framework of operational guidelines on United Nations support to South-South and triangular cooperation (item 3)							
Consideration of the report of the Secretary-General on a comprehensive proposal on concrete ways to enhance the role and impact of the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation, as well as the key measures taken to improve the coordination and coherence of United Nations support to South-South cooperation (item 4)							

B. Working Group

Monday 16 May 2016		*Thursday 19 May 2016*	
a.m.	*p.m.*	*a.m.*	*p.m.*
Election of the Rapporteur	Items 2, 3 and 4 (*continued*)	Items 2, 3 and 4 (*concluded*)	Plenary meeting
Organization of work	Draft decision(s)	Approval of all draft decisions	
Review of progress made in implementing the Buenos Aires Plan of Action, the new directions strategy for South-South cooperation and the Nairobi outcome document of the United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation (item 2)			
Follow-up actions arising from previous sessions of the High-level Committee on South-South Cooperation, notably at its eighteenth session, in 2014 (item 3)			
Consideration of the note by the Secretary-General on the framework of operational guidelines on United Nations support to South-South and triangular cooperation			
Consideration of the report by the Secretary-General on a comprehensive proposal on concrete ways to enhance the role and impact of the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation, as well as the key measures taken to improve the coordination and coherence of United Nations support to South-South cooperation. (item 4)			
Draft decision(s)			